# ALTERNATIVES-TO-ABORTION SERVICES ANNUAL REPORT December 2014



This report is submitted by the following:

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## ALTERNATIVES-TO-ABORTION SERVICES OKLAHOMA STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

On November 1, 2006, the Oklahoma statute<sup>1</sup> "Alternatives-to-Abortion Services" became effective. As required by the statute, a related Board of Health rule<sup>2</sup> was brought before the Board in September 2007.

#### **GENERAL PURPOSE**

The Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH) is to contract with non-governmental health care and special service organizations to provide alternatives-to-abortion services. Alternatives-to-abortion services means "those services that promote childbirth instead of abortion by providing information, counseling and support services that assist pregnant women or women who believe they may be pregnant to choose childbirth and to make informed decisions regarding the choice of adoption or parenting with respect to their children." The services must be outcome-based with positive results.

#### **MINIMUM AGENCY QUALIFICATIONS**

The Contractor must:

- 1. Have as part or in whole its purpose of assisting and encouraging women to carry their pregnancies to term and maximizing their potential thereafter.
- 2. Not provide abortions, promote abortions or directly refer to an abortion provider. However, any nondirective counseling relating to the pregnancy shall not disqualify the Contractor from receiving these funds.
- 3. Not be an affiliate of an agency that provides abortions, promotes abortions or directly refers to an abortion provider.
- 4. Not be a governmental agency and must be a not-for-profit organization.
- 5. Be licensed by the State of Oklahoma to provide adoption services.
- 6. Have been in operation and have provided adoption services for at least five years as of July 1, 2012.
- 7. Have written privacy policies and procedures in place to ensure client confidentiality, including, but not limited to, ensuring that the name, address, telephone number and any other information that might identify any woman seeking services is not made public or shared with any other agency or organization without the written consent of the woman.
- 8. Have written policies and procedures in place requiring all staff, paid and voluntary, to undergo a background check that covers criminal history in Oklahoma and other states that the staff or volunteer has resided.
- 9. Have written policies and procedures in place for the reporting of child abuse and neglect commensurate with Oklahoma law.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Alternatives-to-Abortion Services 63 O.S. 1-740-11

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Alternatives-to-Abortion Services O.A.C. 310-527

- 10. Have written policies and procedures in place to ensure that women served are not discriminated against due to age, race, nationality, religion or marital status.
- 11. Be capable of collecting data and reporting the required data to OSDH on a monthly basis.

#### **CONTRACT**

A contract was established with Deaconess Pregnancy and Adoption Services (Deaconess) on July 1, 2013 to assist birth parents, adoptees and adoptive parents with the adoption process. Well-trained adoption counselors provided counseling as well as referrals to additional services/resources in the community. Deaconess did not bill for any services after November 2013.

#### **CONTRACT EXPENSE AMOUNT**

The maximum total amount of the contract was \$5,000. Renewal is contingent upon the needs of the OSDH, the Contractor's performance and available funding. Renewal amounts may be less than the original award.

#### **SERVICES PROVIDED**

July 1, 2013 – November 30, 2013	July	August	Sept	Oct	Nov	CUMULATIVE
July 1, 2013 - November 30, 2013	July	August	Зерс	OCC	1404	CONTOLATIVE
Pregnant women seeking adoption services	7	5	4	1	0	17
Children receiving post-adoption services	6	7	8	9	9	39
Babies placed for adoption	2	2	1	1	0	6
Babies Placed/Birth Order in Birth Family						
# first born	0	0	0	0	0	0
# second born	0	1	1	0	0	2
# third and subsequent born	2	1	0	1	0	4
Number of Birth Parents Receiving Services						
Birth mothers receiving services alone	7	5	4	1	0	17
Birth mothers receiving services jointly with						
birth father	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ages of Birth Mothers Seeking Services						
10-20 years old	2	1	1	0	0	4
21-30 years old	2	4	2	0	0	8
31-40 years old	3	0	0	1	0	4
41-50 years old	0	0	1	0	0	1
Average age	26	23	28	31	-	27
Marital Status of Birth Mothers Receiving Services						
Single	6	4	3	0	1	14

July 1, 2013 – November 30, 2013	July	August	Sept	Oct	Nov	CUMULATIVE
Married	1	0	0	0	0	1
Divorced	0	1	1	0	0	2
Counties of Residence of Birth Mothers						
Cleveland	0	0	1	0	0	1
McClain	1	0	0	0	0	1
Oklahoma	5	4	3	1	0	13
Pottawatomie	1	0	0	0	0	1
Washita	0	1	0	0	0	1
Homeless / Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0
Counties of Residence of Adoptive Parents						
Cleveland	0	1	0	0	0	1
Oklahoma	1	0	1	0	0	2
Tulsa	0	0	0	1	0	1
Out of state	1	1	0	0	0	2
Referrals for Services						
Medical care	0	1	0	0	0	1
Nutritional services	0	2	2	0	0	4
Housing assistance	0	0	0	0	0	0
Child care assistance	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mental health services	0	0	0	0	0	0
Education assistance	0	0	0	0	0	0
Employment assistance	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other – described below						
Maternity clothes	1	2	2	0	0	5
Transportation	0	0	0	0	0	0

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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